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Programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

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Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago **Wins** (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th, 20th, 21st and 40th meetings, from 29 to 31 October and on 24 December 2001, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/55/46 and Corr.1 and Add.1) on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.4/55/L.23 and the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/55/572/Add.1); and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/478).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.32

2. At the 40th meeting, on 24 December, the representative of Pakistan, coordinator of the informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects" (A/C.5/56/L.32).

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3. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.32 without a vote (see para. 5).

4. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Belgium (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Cuba (see A/C.5/56/SR.40).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

5. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,

Having considered the statements submitted by the Secretary-General on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Taking account of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects,[3]

Recalling its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993, 48/226 B of 5 April 1994, 48/226 C of 29 July 1994, 49/250 of 20 July 1995, 50/11 of 2 November 1995, 50/221 A of 11 April 1996, 50/221 B of 7 June 1996, 51/226 of 3 April 1997, 51/239 A of 17 June 1997, 51/239 B and 51/243 of 15 September 1997, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 52/234 and 52/248 of 26 June 1998, 53/12 A of 26 October 1998, 53/208 B of 18 December 1998, 53/12 B of 8 June 1999, 54/243 A of 23 December 1999, 54/243 B of 15 June 2000, 55/238 of 23 December 2000 and 55/271 of 14 June 2001 and its decisions 48/489 of 8 July 1994, 49/469 of 23 December 1994 and 50/473 of 23 December 1995,

Noting with appreciation the comments and observations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2] in paragraph 6 on the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations and the determination of the resources, and paragraph 26 on the role and responsibilities of the head of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and his senior staff in the area of management;

1. *Attaches* great importance to the provision of adequate resources for peacekeeping operations and their backstopping as well as for all priority activities of the Organization, in particular activities in the area of development, and

[1] A/C.5/55/46 and Corr.1 and Add.1.
[2] A/56/478.
[3] A/55/1024 and Corr.1.

underlines the need for genuine and meaningful partnership between the Security Council, the troop-contributing Governments and other Member States and the Secretariat;

2. *Reaffirms* that the expenses of the Organization, including the backstopping of peacekeeping operations, shall be borne by Member States;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when making first-time use of the results-based budgeting technique in the presentation of the support account budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, to undertake a complete rethinking of how post and non-post resources for the support account are justified and presented and, in this regard, to take full account of paragraphs 9 and 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

4. *Reaffirms* the decision in paragraph 2 of its resolution 49/250 of 20 July 1995 that the support account funds shall be used for the sole purpose of financing human and non-human resource requirements for backstopping and supporting peacekeeping operations at Headquarters, and that any changes to this limitation will require the prior approval of the General Assembly;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the issue of capacity in the Peacekeeping Best Practices Unit for policy support in peacekeeping operations in the area of demobilization, disarmament and reintegration, taking into account the views of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

6. *Stresses* that the creation of small units in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to fulfil various functions that duplicate the responsibilities of other departments must be avoided, and shares the caution expressed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that an increase in the number of organizational units in the Department does not necessarily facilitate coordination or enhance administrative and management capacity;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prevent duplication of work between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs and to further clarify the relationships and interactions between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and other offices in the Department of Management, especially those dealing with personnel, financial administration and control management of procurement activities and monitoring of delegated authority;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report in the context of the annual support account budget estimates on action taken by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to develop and implement a comprehensive information technology systems strategy that integrates field missions with the Secretariat's overall information and communication technology strategy;

9. *Expresses concern* about the effect of scattering the units of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in a number of different physical locations on its operational effectiveness, and requests the Secretary-General to investigate and report on ways and means of achieving co-location of such units;

10. *Also expresses concern* over the delay in the recruitment and staffing of the 93 support account posts approved in December 2000 on an urgent basis;

11. *Reaffirms* section I, paragraph 6, of its resolution 55/238, in which it agreed with paragraph 36 of the report of the Special Committee[4] relating to proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat;

12. *Expresses concern* over the imbalance in the geographical representation of Member States in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and urges the Secretary-General to take immediate measures to improve the representation of underrepresented and unrepresented Member States in future recruitment;

13. *Also expresses concern* over the lack of compliance by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations with the rules, regulations and procedures pertaining to human resources management, and in this regard reaffirms the role of the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat as set out in General Assembly resolutions 53/221 of 7 April 1999 and 55/258 of 14 June 2001, in particular the General Assembly decision that the Office of Human Resources Management should remain the central authority for the monitoring and approval of the recruitment and placement of staff and for the interpretation of the regulations and rules of the Organization and their enforcement;

14. *Welcomes* the emphasis on training, planning and establishment of rosters, which would provide the capacity to manage and monitor personnel actions in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Office of Human Resources Management, and encourages the utilization of information technology in reducing the current recruitment period below 180 days;

15. *Regrets* the inordinate delay in the certification of write-off claims from some liquidated peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to finalize the certification of those claims by 30 June 2002 and to submit a progress report on this issue to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session;

16. *Urges* the Secretary-General to give priority to the reimbursement of claims from liquidated missions, including maintaining adequate reserves to settle claims once certified;

17. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and decides not to establish at this time the D-2 post of Director of Change Management mentioned in paragraph 28 of the report of the Advisory Committee and to keep it under review for consideration at the second part of its resumed fifty-sixth session, and, in the light of the development of a coherent policy, to review the P-5 post for gender issues at the second part of its resumed fifty-sixth session;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with the task of conducting an evaluation of the impact of the recent restructuring of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on its backstopping of peacekeeping operations performance, and the impact on efficient and effective use of the resources of the Department, and to report to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session;

[4] A/C.4/55/6.

19. *Decides* to appropriate an additional amount of 1,575,500 United States dollars under the following sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003: 376,400 dollars under section 3, Political affairs; 888,800 dollars under section 22, Human rights; 127,900 dollars under section 27, Management and central support services; and 182,000 dollars under section 32, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount (182,000 dollars) under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003;

20. *Approves* an additional 121 support account-funded posts and their related post and non-post requirements in the amount of 16,103,750 dollars gross (14,889,500 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct, through the Office of Internal Oversight Services, an audit of the policies and procedures of the Organization for recruiting staff for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and to report thereon to the General Assembly for its consideration at its resumed fifty-sixth session.